

February 24, 2011

Dear Chairman Taborsak, Chairman Doyle, and members of the committee:

My testimony is in support of Raised House Bill No. 6337, AN ACT CLARIFYING THE SCOPE OF SOLAR ELECTRICITY WORK. Specifically, the Act clarifies the scope of solar electricity work permitted by PV-1 licensed contractors.

I have been a registered PV-2 apprentice since August 19, 2009, have worked under the direct supervision of a PV-1 beginning in November 2008, and have consistently worked closely with E-1s and E-2s since the beginning of my solar installation experience in 2005.

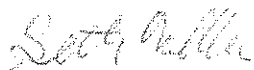
The intent of the PV-1 and PV-2 licenses, as I understand it, was to build a dedicated and competent renewable energy workforce in the state of Connecticut. In order to achieve this goal a PV-1 licensed individual must have the authority to complete the entire photovoltaic installation from design to grid interconnection and commissioning. I feel that two years in the classroom and four years actively installing solar electric systems is sufficient to know the limited scope of installing and interconnecting renewable energy systems. In my experience, most of the students in my classes have been intending to obtain their E-2 licenses. Although learning many of the same things as an E-2, I am focusing my studies and experiences designing, installing, and interconnecting photovoltaic systems, and am choosing not to learn the additional information that E-2 apprentices will.

I am not advocating broadening the scope of the PV licenses beyond what is necessary and reasonable for me to become a fully qualified photovoltaic installer. This legislation ensures that as the industry grows there will be a strong base of dedicated capable solar installers. The more versatile E-1s and E-2s will continue to have the ability to design and install solar systems while having the flexibility to leave the industry and pursue other electrical work as they see fit.

I feel this legislation is critical in keeping the foundation intact upon which Connecticut's solar program can steadily grow and succeed.

Thank you very much for taking my comments under consideration.

Sincerely,



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